



Bulletin

East Memphis Rotary Club

Richard Marsh, President

July 24, 2019

Photographer: Bill Pickens

2019-2020

Our 31st Year

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Upcoming Programs

July 31, 2019

Peter Abell
President & CEO
Memphis Symphony Orchestra

August 7, 2019

District 6800 Governor
Jonathan Mattox

August 14, 2019

Leslie Smith
President & CEO
Epicenter Memphis



Speaker Gift Sponsor

Wednesday, July 31, 2019

Peter Abell, Memphis Symphony Orchestra



Peter Abell joined the MSO as President and CEO in August of 2017 after no one else would agree to do the job. While a sub-par musician himself, he was surrounded by excellent ones. His father Jack was Principal Violist of the MSO and his grandfather Usher Abell was a University Music School Dean.

Peter most recently served as the Executive Director for Books from Birth, the largest early literacy program in America. While at Books from Birth, the organization increased enrollment by nearly 30%, with growth focused primarily in the urban core of Memphis. With the support of an amazing group of volunteers and donors, Peter facilitated a merger with Porter-Leath, the local provider of Head Start services. The merger guarantees the neediest children in Memphis receive the program first and improves its chances for sustainability.

Prior to joining Books from Birth, Abell was an Assistant Director at Youth Villages and had previously served as a Senior District Executive with the Chickasaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America. After graduating from White Station High School, Peter received a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and later earned a Master's of Public Administration with a concentration in Nonprofit Management at the University of Memphis.

Peter is married to Jessica and they have two children, Amos and Molly. Peter has given up all hobbies to focus on the symphony and being the world's best father and husband, though he struggles with a mild HGTV addiction.

Last Week



Alan Crone, serves as Mayor Jim Strickland's Senior Policy Advisor, advising the mayor on strategic issues and serving as the administration's point on government relations. He spoke about redevelopment plans taking place in our city, such as the renovations at the Convention Center and the 550 room new Lowe's hotel to be built as a complement to the convention center. A \$950 million project is planned for a new mixed-use area along Union Avenue in downtown Memphis that will transform the way visitors and residents see our city. A lot going on in parts of the city that will make our city more attractive to real estate developers.



Get Well Soon



Prayers were answered for successful heart surgery for Rick Webb. Rick had heart valve replacement surgery last Wednesday. He will be in the hospital for several more days, but Marty says he should be home and able to answer emails and phone calls by the end of next week. We want to keep Rick in our prayers for a speedy recovery.

Welcome



Ingrid Bolding visited with us again this week and brought along her son, Mark. So glad to have you both with us this week. Please come again soon and often.

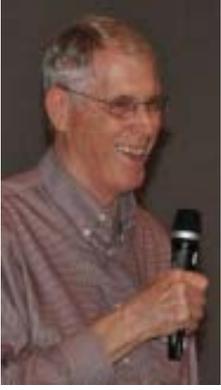
Beth Okeon was with us again and we thank her for securing Alan Crone as our speaker.

Proposed New Member

Beth Dowdie
Multimedia Consultant
Memphis Business Journal
Classification:
Media: Advertising

Classification Committee and Board of Directors recommend the named individuals for membership in our club. Any comments concerning the prospective members should be made in writing to Nina Gourley at 1661 Aaron Benner, Suite 300, Memphis, TN 38120. Email: ngourley@wucpas.com with a copy to Lee Hughes, 504 Sanga Circle West, Cordova, TN 38018, Email: lmhughes@costconsulting.net

Happy Dollars



Dick Swett announced that he became a great grandfather on Tuesday. Congratulations!



John Seabold announced that Rick Webb was in surgery today to replace the aortic valve in his heart. He will be MIA for several weeks, and we need to keep him close in our prayers for a speedy recovery.



Visiting Rotarian Ingrid Bolding was pleased to have her son, Mark, visiting with her today. She said she was glad to be back visiting with our club. We hope she will make it permanent.



Sandra Roberts had a dollar for each of the three weeks she has been traveling. Glad to have her back.



Rev. Jim Marquis said he was glad to be in a vertical position and says he feels pretty good thanks to all the prayers and kindness he has received during his recent health issues.



Cathy Reid had a happy dollar for the great weather we have had this week. Just wish it would continue until fall.



Russ you were too far away and I didn't get your happy dollar, but think it was something in your family tree that would have given you a scholarship to UT/Knoxville.



Mark Griffie had \$18 for the eighteen years his daughter has been in school -high school, then college followed by law school. She will be taking the New York bar this week.



Bob Schreiber announced that his granddaughter would begin driving lessons this week. Everyone watch out!



Richard Marsh announced his oldest child just had their third child, giving him his 7th grandchild.